

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

May 25, 2004

During 2004, in the State of California more than 55,000 teenage girls will have babies. The current annual cost to tax payers for teen births in California is estimated to be \$1.5 billion. While funding for teen pregnancy programs has declined, our youth population is on the increase, creating a growing need for effective prevention, education and health services to prevent and respond to teen pregnancies in our own communities.

Programs like the Hollywood Teen Community Project, funded by the California Wellness Foundation, have worked successfully to decrease teen pregnancies through a variety of prevention and education strategies. Several Adolescent Family Life Programs in Los Angeles County provide services and support to teens who do become parents. These programs help improve birth outcomes, improve child health, reduce repeat pregnancies, and improve the overall well-being of teen-parent families in Los Angeles County.

In order to promote public awareness about the issue of teen pregnancies and to engender support for prevention, education, health and other support services, the month of May has been declared National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, and local jurisdictions throughout the Country have made similar declarations. It is, therefore,

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appropriate for the Board of Supervisors to recognize this important social issue.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors declare the month of May, 2004, as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month, to promote public awareness about the issue of teen pregnancies and to engender support for prevention, education, health and other support services.

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